

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

IN RE: MOUNTAIN EXPRESS OIL COMPANY, <i>et al.</i> DEBTORS.	§ § § § § §	CASE NO.: 23-90147 (JOINTLY ADMINISTERED) CHAPTER 7
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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL RATE INCREASE BY
HUGHES WATTERS ASKANASE LLP**

On August 24, 2023, Janet Northrup, Chapter 7 Trustee for the above-referenced Debtor (the “Trustee”), filed an application to retain and employ Hughes Watters Askanase LLP (“HWA”) as Counsel for the Trustee [Docket No. 1395] (the “Employment Application”). On August 30, 2023, the Court entered an order authorizing the retention and employment of HWA [Docket No. 1432] (the “Employment Order”).

In the ordinary course of HWA’s business and in keeping with HWA’s established billing practices and procedures, HWA’s standard billing rates are adjusted firm-wide on January 1st of each year. Specifically, effective as of January 1, 2024, HWA’s billing rates for professionals and paraprofessionals who may work on matters related to this case shall be as follows:

Partners/Associates	Hourly Rate/Range
Wayne Kitchens	\$800.00
Heather McIntyre	\$725.00
David Lodholz	\$725.00
Mandy Moerschell	\$400.00
Paralegals	\$200.00

The Trustee is aware of and approves these rate increases.

Dated: March 18, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Heather Heath McIntyre

Wayne Kitchens TBN 11541110

wkitchens@hwallp.com

Heather Heath McIntyre TBN 24041076

hmcyntre@hwallp.com

1201 Louisiana, 28th Floor

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 759-0818 Telephone

(713) 759-6834 Facsimile

ATTORNEYS FOR JANET S.

NORTHRUP, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served on the parties receiving notice via the Court's ECF notice system on March 18, 2024.

/s/ Heather Heath McIntyre

Heather Heath McIntyre